

71/4
To His Highness

RICHARD

Lord Protector

OF THE
COMMON-WEALTH
OF

England, Scotland, and Ireland,
and the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging.

THE HUMBLE
REPRESENTATION
AND

Petition of the General Council of the Officers of the Armies
of *England, Scotland, and Ireland.*

Wednesday 6th. April 1659.

Ordered by the General Council of the Officers of the Armies of England, Scotland and Ireland, That this Representation and Petition be forthwith Printed and published.

Phillip Carterred
Judge Advocate.

LONDON,

Printed by *Henry Hills*, one of His Highness
the Lord Protectors Printers, 1659.

GTD

Great Brit. Army Council of Officers

REPRESENTATION

Keep variant copy = p1, l.15, (Mercenary)
all.



To His Highness *Richard* Lord
 Protector of the Commonwealth of
England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the
 Dominions and Territories thereun-
 to belonging.

*The humble Representation and Petition of
 the General Council of the Officers of the Armies
 of England, Scotland, and Ireland.*

Having as Members of the Army
 often Solemnly declared not with-
 out appeales to God for our sincer-
 ity therein, That We did ingage
 in Judgement and Conscience for
 the just Rights and Liberties, Civil and Religi-
 oous of our Countreys, and not as a Mercenary
 Army,

Had we not been very jealous of our re-
 putation, and Carefull to avoid Suspicion,
 which our many Adversaries have endeavoured
 to bring upon us, as if we were apt to intermed-
 dle with matters not relating to an Army, We
 had before this time made joynt and Pub-
 lique application to your Highness, therein set-

ting forth what immediately concerns our selves, with respect to the crying necessities of the Armies, for want of pay ; And withal to have manifested our fervent desires, that our *good Cause* in the behalf of these Nations, might have received renewed strength and Countenance from Your Highness and this present Parliament.

But Your Highness is our witness how peaceably, how silently we have suffered as to what concerns the Armies wants ; Or what might otherwise become us in the behalf of these Nations to have laid before Your Highness.

Yea we have been silent so long, that we fear it has been a disadvantage to our *Cause*, and bred (though we hope groundless) jealousies of us in many of our friends: And until we, and all that is dear to us, the Interest we have so long contended for, is in danger to be lost ; to the utter ruine and subversion of Your Highness, together with the peace and welfare of these Nations.

But being now, under the sense of imminent dangers and necessities, awakened, and also finding that Your Highness, by the sitting of this Parliament, is in a capacity to provide against the approaching danger ; and upon consultation with each other, and communicating what has come to our knowledge of publick concernment, and the present state of the Armies, having unanimously agreed it to be our duty to God, to Your Highness, and our fidelity to our Countrey, Submissively, and as becomes us in our Stations, to make our application to Your Highness: We

We hope it will not be interpreted an interruption to any other publick Concernments under consideration; and do therefore in a deep sence of Misery and Judgement threatned, and pursuance of our Duty, in all humility, Represent,

That the *good old Cause* against Tyranny and intolerable oppression in matters *Civil and Religious*, whereupon we first ingaged, and unto which the Lord hath in such a continued Series of Providence given so signal a Testimony, and for the carrying on whereof there hath been such a plentiful powring forth of *Treasure, Prayers, Tears, and Blood* during the late War (in the difficulties and dangers whereof, we also, the living Monuments of Patience, and Mercy, have had our shares) is very frequently and Publickly derided and reproached, and the implacable Adversaries thereof promise themselves to be so far in possession and Masters thereof, that they begin to appear every where visible amongst us, and to mix themselves in the midsts of those places where that Cause was wont to receive its chiefest Countenance and shelter.

Many old Cavaliers and Officers under the late King and *Charles Stewart* his Son, having lately transported themselves out of *Flanders* and other places into this Nation, have their frequent meetings in and neer the City of *London*.

Those who also served under the late King, and such as have alwayes shewed themselves disaffected to that *famous long Parliament*, and
ever

ever since to the Cause and int'rest of this *Commonwealth*; and seek the ruine of this present Government, have their frequent meetings in several Countries of this Nation, grow very insolent, offer many affronts and assaults to such as have been, and are faithful servants to this Commonwealth.

Papers are scattered up and down, containing Lists of Eminent Assertors of the publick Interest of this Nation, such as were the actual Tryers of the late King, and by whom he was brought to condign punishment, as if they were designed and marked out for destruction.

Encouragement is taken for the prosecution of several Well affected persons, and Sutes commenced against them at the Common Law, for matters by them transacted as Souldiers, by command from their Superiours, in order to the safety and security of the Nations.

The famous Actions of the Parliament, His late Highness, of blessed memory, and the Army in and since the year 1648, vilified and evil spoken of; particular persons frequently daring to speak against the Authority of Parliaments, and to call all their proceedings, and of such as acted in obedience to them, illegal and unwarrantable.

So that upon the whole we evidently see there is but even a step betwixt the Publick Cause of these Nations, wherein we have been so signally blessed and owned of God and good men, and the death thereof; and that it is not likely to expire

expire without a sure presage of the sad Funerals of the deer and never to be enough valued Peace of these our native *Countries*.

And that our *enemies* may want nothing that can strengthen their hopes, it so happens, that the Armies are already under great extremities for want of Pay, and notwithstanding their condition hath been represented, yet no effectual remedy hath been applied, our *Enemies* may hope discontent will be the more easily raised, if the Armies should unavoidably be necessitated upon Free Quarter.

Divisions in the Armies have been attempted and well neer effected; when their wants have not been like to what is now upon them: The Officers purses being generally emptied by their Loanes to the Souldiers, their credits to the Victulars extended to the utmost, The poor Souldier sometimes inforced to sell his expected Pay much under the value thereof, for ready money to buy bread; and the great and unusual Mortality of Horses in the Army (inso-much that many Troopers have been forced to buy twice over) having brought the Horse of this Army under exceeding great extremities:

And as by these means the adversaries to the Peace, Settlement, Prosperity, *Civil* and *Religious* Liberty of these Nations, are grown very confident and high in their expectations and attempts (as we are perswaded ready to betake themselves to their *Armes* again) so likewise
many

many friends thereof are exceedingly discouraged.

We cannot but bewail our own great failings, and turnings aside, and whereinsoever we have back-slidden we have cause, and desire to take shame to our selves.

And do therefore for the strengthening of Your Highness and Parliament; For the Reviving the hearts of our Faithful friends, and the vindication of our own integrity against all censures and jealousies, assert;

That we are now, as ever, equally indured to our *good old Cause*, and utter Enemies to all Tyranny, Oppression, and Disturbance of the Publick Peace under what pretences soever: And through the Lords assistance resolved, whilst our lives and present capacities are continued to us, to stand by and assist Your Highness and Parliament, in the plucking the wicked out of their places wheresoever they may be discovered, either amongst our selves, or any other places of trust; The Reformation of Law and Manners so frequently declared for, and so earnestly expected by all sober unbiassed men. Opening the course of Justice, and Bowels of Mercy, encouraging the wayes of holiness, and putting a stop to the inundation of Malignancy and Profaneness.

All which, as it hath been in Duty and Faithfulness by us represented, so we humbly pray, That Your Highness taking into Your serious consideration, the sad condition of the Armies, and

and danger of the Nations, both from the great want of Pay, and Activity of our common Enemy, will be pleased to Represent these things which we have hereint laid before Your Highness, to the Parliament, with our Humble Desire and Prayer, that a speedy Supply be made ~~farther~~ ^{to the} Armies, that their past Arrear may be satisfied, and care taken for their constant future Pay, so long as it shall be thought fit to continue them; as also that satisfaction be given to the Militia Forces, and that there may be such a Publick Asserting of our *good old Cause*, and Justification and confirmation of all proceedings in Prosecution and Maintenance thereof, and Declaration against its Enemies, as may for the future deter all persons from Speaking or Attempting any thing to the prejudice thereof, or of the persons that have Acted in Prosecution of it, and afford present security to the Civil and Religious Rights and Liberties of these Nations, and the Peace thereof; And that the Liberty of Good and Well-affected People, in repairing with Freedom to their Meetings for the Worship of God, (of late much Violated by Inditing and Imprisoning many of their Persons) may be still Asserted and Vindicated.

**The Printer to the
READER.**

Courteous Reader,

THis Representation was agreed on and Signed by all the Officers both Great and Small, that are in or near London, not one dissenting, whose names should have been herewith Printed, but that they could not be written out in time: It was likewise presented to His Highness the 6th of *April*, 1659. by the Right Honourable the Lord *Charles Fleetwood*, attended with the rest of the General Council of Officers, and was most graciously accepted by His Highness, who expressed himself with much affection towards both it and them.